Questions and Answers Regarding NASA Research Announcement (NRA) 01-OBPR-04, NASA Specialized Center of Research and Training (NSCORT) for Advanced Life Support

Note: The NRA is available at:
http://research.hq.nasa.gov/code_u/nra/current/NRA-01-OBPR-04/index.html

1. Is the 1999 ALS rotating 10-day menu available?

It is published in the journal Life Support & Biosphere Science, Vol. 5 pp 231-242, 1998.

2. How much of a factor should power be in an ALS? Have power requirements been set?

Power requirements (or more precisely, power limitations) have not been set. As will all space-based systems, power is always a major factor. ALS is very concerned about minimizing the amount of power needed for an ALS; as it is with mass, volume, reliability, thermal needs, and crew time requirements.

3. Is lower TRL work what is sought from universities? Can a university be expected to put together pieces of an ALS? Research vs technology?

In general, NASA looks to universities for lower TRL work; more basic and applied research. However, technology development is not ruled out. While full-up integrated testing will be carried out by NASA in its own facilities, a university could do some integration at say a functional level to examine interactions or relationships between ALS components which is an important area of research. This call is a "NASA Research Announcement" for a "NASA Specialized Center for Research and Training for Advanced Life Support."

4. What about the fidelity of the wastes used for research?

In developing the research proposal the Proposers should use the waste model as defined in the Reference Missions and Baseline Values and Assumptions Documents. It is anticipated that the NSCORT during the course of their research will invest efforts in wastes characterization so that a more realistic waste for a long-duration mission could be developed. Please note that the proposer must adhere to all their own institutional regulations, guidelines, and policies.